



TATA MEMORIAL CENTRE

Office of the Director Academics

Observership Program in Plastic Surgery

Onco - Reconstruction and Microvascular Skills Development Program

Location Hospital Name: Tata Memorial Centre, Mumbai (TMH + ACTREC)

Tata Memorial Hospital, Parel (TMH)
Dr. Ernest Borges Marg, Parel, Mumbai – 400012,
Maharashtra, India.

AND

**Advanced Centre for Treatment, Research and
Education in Cancer (ACTREC)**

Sector 22, Utsav Chowk - CISF Rd, Owe Camp, Kharghar,
Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra 410210, India.

Eligibility : M.Ch. / D.N.B. in plastic surgery or Equivalent degree as
per the norms in the country or region (letter of
recommendation by the competent authority is
required)

**Duration of
Observership** : 1 week to 3 Months

Objective:

The Microvascular Fellowship Program at Tata Memorial Centre, Mumbai, India is designed to provide advanced hands-on training in microvascular surgery and cancer reconstruction for post-graduate plastic surgeons. The program aims to equip fellows with the skills and expertise necessary to independently manage complex microvascular cases, with a focus on cancer reconstruction especially head and neck, breast, and sarcoma reconstruction.

Unit Structure:

The Department of Plastic, Reconstructive and Microvascular Surgery at Tata Memorial Centre Mumbai India spearheads reconstructive services at Tata Memorial Hospital, Parel, ACTREC, Kharghar, and other non-Mumbai cancer centers across India, like Vizag, Varanasi, Guwahati, and Mullanpur. We also run a residency program - M.Ch. degree course in Plastic Surgery with 6-residents intake per year. In addition to residents, we have registrar and fellowship posts (4-candidates per year). The average number of free flaps done across the centers ranges around 110-120 per month for head and neck, breast, and sarcoma reconstructions.



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Curriculum:

- Microvascular techniques and instrumentation
- Flap design and harvest of commonly and uncommonly performed free flaps
- Microvascular anastomosis
- Nerve repair and reconstruction
- Cancer reconstruction (e.g. breast, head and neck, extremity)
- Free tissue transfer and locoregional flaps
- Lymphedema surgery
- Secondary corrective procedures for rehabilitation post cancer treatment
- Function restoring procedures for extremity sarcoma resections

Experience under supervision during training:

1. Clinical

- Participate in loco regional and microvascular reconstruction cases of head and neck malignancies (average total of 80 cases of head and neck free flaps per month)
- Breast cancer reconstructions (around 10 cases of whole breast reconstruction and 15 cases of partial breast reconstruction and breast oncoplasties per month)
- Sarcoma reconstruction (Bony and soft tissue reconstruction) (Around 15 cases per month)
- Lymphedema surgery and supermicrosurgery, and secondary reconstructions
- Assist and perform microvascular procedures under faculty supervision
- Manage microvascular patients in the ICU and ward settings
- Participate in weekly joint clinics and disease management groups (DMGs) for evaluation and decision-making in OPDs

2. Education (candidates to participate in all academic activities of the department)

- Case presentations
- Monthly journal clubs and literature reviews
- Protocol presentations
- Seminars
- Quarterly visiting professor lectures
- Annual meeting and workshop on Cancer reconstruction - 'Onco recon', national meeting and video workshop for microvascular cancer reconstruction
- Organising and attending national Plastic Surgical and Reconstructive microsurgery meetings



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3. **Research** - The candidate is encouraged to participate in the research projects and publications
4. **Clinical governance** - Regular attendance at hospital morbidity and mortality meetings.
5. **Laboratory microvascular training** - One-week training in the laboratory.
 - Videos on the anastomosis techniques (end to end and end to side)
 - Dry lab – Two days of training on the gloves and tubes
 - Wet lab – Third day onwards - chicken veins/placenta/rats.
 - MARS Scoring and certification on successful completion of the microvascular training program.
6. **Evaluation and Assessment:**
 - Regular evaluation of the Logbook, which the trainee has to maintain from day 1 until the day of completion of the course.
 - Regular feedback and evaluation by faculty
 - Quarterly audits and progress assessments
 - Annual appraisal exams
 - Final project presentation/research publication (e.g. research article, case series)

Assessments	:	Intra-Departmental.
Completion Certificate	:	Will be issued upon successful completion of tenure.

Contacts

Head of Department	:	Prof. Vinay Kant Shankhdhar
Academics Department	:	For Technical / Documentation / Joining Support / Virtual Assistance

Mr. Pratham G Mayekar– Administrative Assistant
Mobile Number (Whatsapp): +91-8097086211
Email ID: observers@tmc.gov.in&tmctrainingcell@gmail.com

Mr. Ganesh Mewati – Assistant (Academics)
Mobile number (WhatsApp): +91-8767008034
Email ID: observers@tmc.gov.in&tmctrainingcell@gmail.com

Mr. Daniel Shelke – Assistant Administrative Officer (Academics)
Mobile number (WhatsApp): +91-8850049927
Email ID: shelkeds@tmc.gov.in&danielcoordination@gmail.com